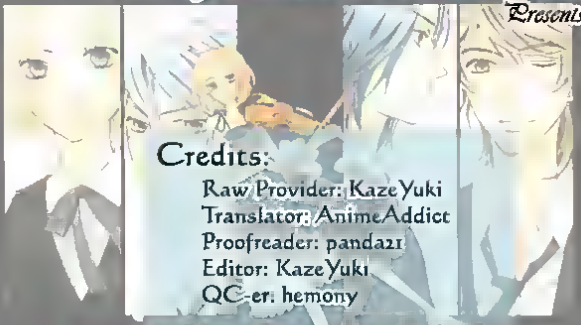
Shoujo Sense and Kaito Zero

Presents



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Aria of Linden Hall

Volume 3 Chapter 13

by Kure Yuki

http //shoujosense com/
http //kaitozero wordpress com

Session 13

MIYAGI
PREFECTURE.
SHISEIKAN
HIGH SCHOOL.

sfx cheering and applause

...

WHAT...
IS THIS?

ESPECIALLY... SHISEIKAN HIGH SCHOOL WITH HARU'S COUSIN...
WOULDN'T THEY EASILY WIN THE NATIONALS?
THEY'RE ALL REALLY GOOD...
I SAW SEISOU BACK STAGE... THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO BE IN GOOD SHAPE...
KANAGAWA PREFECTURE'S SEISOU ACADEMY, VIOLIN CONCERTO, "WINTER", 1ST MOVEMENT.
WILL THEY BE OKAY!?
SEISOU'S KISARAGI-KUN IS AMAZING THOUGH.
YEAH! DIDN'T HE WIN A NATIONAL COMPETITION WITH HIS SOLO PERFORMANCE?
I BET THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE WHO CAME HERE JUST TO LISTEN TO HIM PLAY.
Im one of them!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
AH!
IT'S STARTING!

WHO CARES! SOMEONE LIKE HIM...
WHAT ON EARTH WAS THAT?
AND K. NADE AS WELL...

...HUH?

EH...? ISN'T IT A BIT...
YEAH...
WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S ALL OVER THE PLACE.

I KNEW IT...-IN THAT CONDI-TION...
sfx grip

sfx Wow!
sfx applause
AS EXPECTED OF KISARAGI-KUN.
A DEEP AND STRIKING PERFORMANCE.
IT'S LOVELY.
THAT'S TRUE.
Yeah,
BUT... THE OTHERS WERE A BIT...

SFX: applause
I THINK THE VIOLIST WAS GOOD, BUT THE CELLIST AND SECOND VIOLINIST WEREN'T THAT GREAT.
THEIR MISTAKES WERE OBVIOUS
I WONDER IF THEY'LL DO WELL IN THEIR PERFORMANCE TOMORROW...
I'M SORRY, RITSU-KUN, I...!

RITSU-KUN
HAD SUCH A GREAT PERFOR-MANCE AND YET...
I MADE MISTAKES RIGHT FROM THE START...
RI-TSU?

HEY!
RITSU ?!

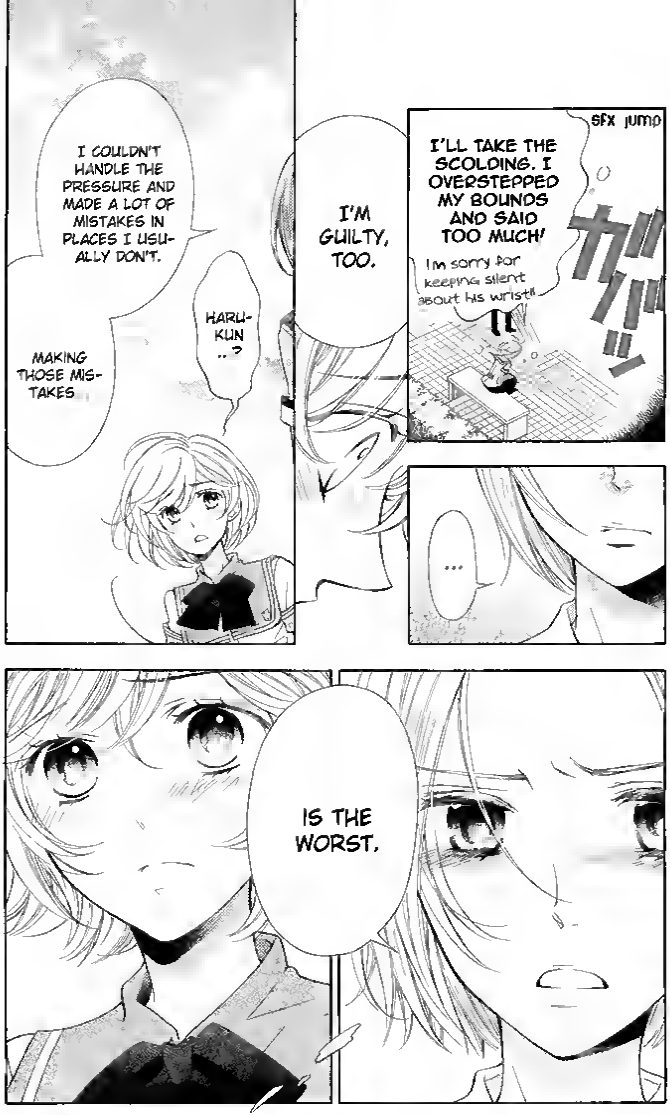
RITSU-KUN...!
西病院
NO WAY...
PLEASE AVOID STRAINING YOUR HAND AND LET IT REST.
PLAYING IN YOUR CONDITION IS JUST CRAZY!

DON'T WORRY.
IT'S FINE...
IF YOU PUSH YOURSELF NOW, YOU RISK YOUR FUTURE AS A MUSICIAN...
JUST WHAT IS FINE ABOUT THIS...?

DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE, KOHINATA
PERFORMING WITH SUCH AN INJURY...
WHAT IF IT GETS WORSE?!
IT'S ALREADY GOTTEN WORSE THAN BEFORE!
BEFORE...? COULD IT BE...
YOU KNEW ABOUT IT? KOHINATA-SENPAI
sfx gulp
I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE NO MATTER WHAT.
IF WE WANT TO WIN, I CAN'T BACK DOWN NOW.

I KNOW THAT... BUT...
YOU ALWAYS SAY YOU'RE FINE... YOU'RE FINE.
DO YOU REALLY NOT TRUST US THAT MUCH?!
IN THE END, YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN US AT ALL.
HEY... KOHINATA-SENPAI?!
HINA-CHAN, THAT'S TOO MUCH.
BUT...!

病院
I WAS... WORRIED ABOUT HIM.
I MAY HAVE SAID TOO MUCH, BUT
KO-HINATA-SENPAI
BUT...


I COULDN'T HANDLE THE PRESSURE AND MADE A LOT OF MISTAKES IN PLACES I USUALLY DON'T.
MAKING THOSE MISTAKES
HARU-KUN ..?
I'M GUILTY, TOO.
SFX jump
I'LL TAKE THE SCOLDING. I OVERSTEPPED MY BOUNDS AND SAID TOO MUCH!
I'm sorry for keeping silent about his wrist!
...
IS THE WORST.

AS LONG AS RITSU-KUN IS THERE...
I REALIZED JUST NOW THAT WE RELY FAR TOO MUCH ON OUR CAPTAIN.
WE'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS HE'S THERE... THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
IT'S... PATHE-TIC.
I'M THE SAME...

I THOUGHT THAT AS WELL...
...
I WAS NERVOUS AND GAVE A TERRIBLE PERFOR-MANCE..
WASN'T IT ACTUALLY ME WHO DIDN'T BELIEVE IN HIM?
THAT WITHOUT HIM, WE WOULDN'T... WIN.
AND ENDED UP PUTTING EVEN MORE OF A BURDEN ON RITSU-KUN..
I RELIED ON HIM TOO MUCH.
SOME-THING LIKE THAT... IS SO SELFISH OF ME.
HINA-CHAN WAS AWARE OF YOUR WRIST, WASN'T SHE?

HEY... DO YOU REMEMBER?
IT WAS DURING THE ENTRANCE EXAMS WHEN YOU AND I FIRST MET.
AT THAT TIME I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOME WEIRD PERSON WHO KEPT SAYING... "I'M GOING TO WIN THE NATIONALS."
WELL... IT'S THANKS TO THAT THAT I'M HERE NOW.

HON-
EST-
LY...
AS YOU
SAID, WINNING
WITHOUT YOU
THERE WILL BE
HARD...
I KNOW
THAT.
...BUT
COULDN'T
YOU HAVE
TOLD ME?
...I
KNOW
JUST HOW
MUCH YOU WANT
TO WIN

WHERE'S RITSU?
I HEARD THAT HE'S IN THIS HOSPITAL
KYOU-YA!
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?!
KANADE, HARU!

RITSU!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M SORRY, RITSU-KUN.

I KNOW I SAID THAT I FELT YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE IN US BUT...
IN THE END, IT WAS ME WHO DIDN'T BELIEVE IN YOU.
ON MY OWN, I BECAME UNCERTAIN, WORRIED, AND FAILED...
I'M REALLY SORRY.
SFX bow
ME TOO.
I'M REALLY SORRY!
I'M IMMATURE AND IT'S REALLY PATHETIC...

HEY.. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
NO MATTER WHAT RITSU-KUN DECIDES, I'LL BELIEVE IN HIM.
IF YOU CHOOSE TO PERFORM, THEN I'LL DO MY BEST TO SUPPORT YOU.
I'LL TRY NOT TO BE A BURDEN!
I'LL WORK EVEN HARDER.
AND IF THEN IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH... I'VE DONE ALL I COULD.

...BUT-
HEY, WAIT A SECOND
ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO END UP WITHDRAWING FROM THE COMPETITION?
IT WAS ME WHO DIDN'T BELIEVE, HUH...

KYOU-YA.
PERFORM IN MY PLACE.
...EH?